

and last, but not least, persistence in the measures initiated to check the spread of the cocoanut-palm disease, formed the main work of the department, whose labours are, it is noted with satisfaction, more and more appreciated every year by the ryots. Two new Veterinary Hospitals were opened at Quilon and Peermade respectively. There is one hospital now in each Revenue Division. With a view to develop the fisheries of the State, the Government sanctioned the appointment of two Fishery Inspectors during the year. These officers have been deputed to undergo a course of training for a period of two years under Sir Frederick Nicholson, Honorary Director of the Fishery Department, Madras.

23. Trade.—The total value of the external trade was Rs. 7,05,09,702, of which 59·8 per cent represented the exports. The *per capita* value of trade rose from Rs. 18·3 to Rs. 20·5. The trade in the produce of the cocoanut tree, the duty on which alone formed 73·8 per cent of the collections from dutiable exports, showed an increase of Rs. 29,75,330. Every year a large quantity of paddy and rice has to be imported into the State. Their total value during 1089 was Rs. 1,28,99,773, against Rs. 1,08,78,461 in 1088. The war has, of course, considerably affected the exports of produce, and the depression has been seriously felt throughout the State. The rising demand for copra and cocoanut oil is somewhat hopeful, but it will take some time before commercial activity is fully restored.

24. The Public Works Department.—The total expenditure on public works rose from Rs. 36,24,875 to Rs. 38,40,779, of which a sum of Rs. 34,92,697 was spent by the Public Works Department and Rs. 3,48,082 by the Maramat Department. The outlay on the Kodayar Project Works during the year amounted to Rs. 3,15,437. The capital outlay on the Project up to the close of the year has risen to Rs. 80,38,245. A correct Capital and Revenue Account in connection with the Project is being maintained with effect from the 1st Chingam 1089. The receipts are classified into (1) direct receipts, *viz.*, the realisations of the Public Works Department and (2) indirect receipts, *viz.*, the realisations of the Land Revenue Department, consisting of the cess on the lands commanded by the Project and the sale proceeds of obsolete tank-beds. I would state, in this connection, that His Highness' Government do not contemplate any immediate enhancement of the irrigation cess on the lands commanded by the Project.

25. Railway.—The acquisition of lands for the Quilon-Trivandrum Extension of the Tinnevely-Quilon Railway has been almost completed and the work of construction of the line has begun. The Government hope to have the line open for traffic by the close of 1915. The estimated cost of the Extension is, as you know, Bh. Rs. 29,72,252, the whole of which the Government have resolved to spend from their own funds, instead of adding to the already heavy capital liability of 118 lakhs of rupees on account of the existing line from Shencottah to Quilon.

26. Anchal.—The work of the Anchal Department continued to progress satisfactorily, the increase in the number of offices, covers posted and articles delivered being steadily maintained. A new Anchal Regulation, IX of 1089, was passed. The revenue hundi system, tentatively introduced in 1085, was made permanent during the year. Motor cars have been engaged for the transmission of the mails between Nagercoil and Quilon, and between Kottayam and Mundakayam, with great convenience to the public.

MEDICAL AND SANITARY.

27. Vaccination.—The number of vaccinations performed rose from 1,78,411 to 2,40,313, of which as many as 1,92,324 were primary vaccinations. The number of cases verified by the inspecting staff also rose from 56,483 to 81,113. 9,589 infants were successfully vaccinated, the percentage to registered births increasing from 9·5 to 13·4. Vaccination is now compulsory in seven towns.